

through the United States is an honest wish for more sense and less sabre clashing," according to a high German official here.

German officials in London are hoping America will bring to the Allied Supreme Council a "reformed" influence on the end that the reparations problems may be discussed "on a sane, economic basis, with business before politics."

German representatives here used the words "softening" and "moderating," but hastened to explain that Germany does not expect to be left off America used her good offices to bring about a settlement. They stated positively that they knew America would insist on the reparations being paid, and they declared Germany was ready to pay, but that German officials expressed the belief that America's participation in the problem would make the way smoother for bringing about a satisfactory settlement all around.

"The Treaty of Versailles has been signed and must be fulfilled," one of these German officials said, "but it cannot be fulfilled by further military threats. We are still in the old deadlock, and sanction after sanction will not help matters or bring about that which is the chief concern of the world—the restoration of workable economic conditions in the world of business. As one of the most vital nations economically America should be interested in the restoration of workable economic conditions, which obviously are all important because of her great financial and economic power. We plan to bring about a settlement of the war debt to America, but we cannot lay it on the table unless America is present. We do not expect that as a result of America's participation in the reparations conference the reparations bill will be cut, but we hope such American participation would serve to clarify the atmosphere, so that we could hope this will be a happy occasion for the utmost of our ability."

German representatives here insisted that the Berlin officials acted in accordance with diplomatic procedure in sending the note to America and letting America inform the Allies of it. From what they hear from Germany, the first thing there was of criticism of Dr. Walter Simons, Foreign Minister, for trying to draw America into the reparations question has changed with a new consideration of his action, and now it is said the people of Germany feel a way has been opened for calmer deliberation. They hope the German proposals will prompt America and cause further negotiations and they think that in this way a settlement can at last be reached.

Germans here intimated that the chief trouble in the reparations discussion so far has been the tense nationalist feeling between the negotiators, and that this sentiment most objectionably stood in the way of a settlement. Now they hope this will be somewhat removed if America joins the councils. They are optimistic that if it can be removed, all the parties will be able to travel a road leading to a happy settlement.

"If our eyes are not blinded by the flash of the sabres, we can talk business," one German said. He added that America was not flashing the sabre, but just insisting that Germany pay. He declared Germany wants to pay and is looking to America to point the way.

RUHR VALLEY DOTTED WITH RICH INDUSTRIES

How Much France Plans to Occupy Is Still a Secret.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD, New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., April 26.

The Ruhr Valley, which France proposes to occupy on May 1 in the event of the failure of Germany to make satisfactory agreements as to reparations, is the industrial heart of Germany. Its chief centres of industry are Essen, Dortmund, Düsseldorf and Mülheim. It includes the Krupp steel and gun works. The region produces coal and minerals and is filled with industrial enterprises. There is a dense population, and the district is traversed by a network of railroads.

The Ruhr region is comparatively small, stretching from the Rhine along the River Ruhr and reaching out toward the Holland frontier on one side and toward the heart of Germany on the other.

France never has announced how much of this territory she proposes to occupy.

PARIS EXCHANGE RISES; BELGIAN RULES STRONG

Response in New York Market to German Proposals.

As the financial markets yesterday reacted to the response to Germany's latest reparations proposals was witnessed in foreign exchange.

Dealings in bills on Paris were especially heavy, the demand rate opening at 7.25 the highest quotation since last June and rising steadily to 7.75 after the close of the stock market.

Exchange on London did not rise to its high figure of the previous day, but the Belgian rate, as well as Italian and Swiss exchange was strong.

Elsewhere in the international remittance market there were confused movements, the Dutch rate falling slightly with some of the Scandinavian exchanges, while rates on Greece suffered further acute depression.

SEVERAL ARE KILLED IN TURIN FACTIONS' FIGHT

Fascisti Set Reprisal Fire and Arouse Communists.

ROME, April 26.—Several Extreme Nationalists, or Fascisti, and Communists were killed and others wounded in Turin today in a clash between the two factions, says the Turin correspondent of the Tempo.

The fighting occurred when the Fascisti set fire to the big labor exchange in retaliation for the murder of one of their comrades, a disabled former soldier.

La Epoca, commenting on the proposed abatement of the Socialists from participation in the general elections of May 15 points out that the threatened procedure is old in Italian politics and says in the elections of 1919 only 56 to 66 per cent. of the population voted.

JOKERS IN GERMAN PROPOSAL SOUGHT

London Insists Berlin Must Comply Substantially With Paris Terms.

AWAITS HARDING NOTE

Careful Examination Needed to Disclose Full Measure of Offers.

IMPOSSIBLE NOT ASKED

Belief Grows That Plea of Bankruptcy May Be Raised Eventually.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD, Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD, New York Herald Bureau, London, April 26.

President Harding's decision as to whether he considers Germany's new reparations proposals to be "adequate" to transmit to the Allies is eagerly awaited by all classes in Great Britain. It is again emphasized in official circles that these new offers from Berlin must amount to a substantial compliance with the Paris terms. If not, occupation of the Ruhr Valley will go on.

According to direct information from Premier Lloyd George himself England has agreed to this in principle. She will support France to the full measure of her strength in these steps. But both France and England realize that the domestic crisis here makes the British support strictly limited to one of demonstration. As one official describes it to-day, the Ruhr occupying force will be clad in horizon blue, but there will be enough khaki trousers to convince the Germans that it is an international effort to exact justice and not alone the result of French spleen.

Berlin Fears Occupation.

The Germans here apparently realize that, for one of their spokesmen told THE NEW YORK HERALD correspondent that Berlin did not expect to be left off from what was really due as a result of America's intervention. The British Foreign Office apparently has similar information from Berlin, for it was stated there to-day that they believed Germany would exert herself to the utmost to avert occupation of the Ruhr. Foreign Office officials admit they have a summary of the German offer, but in view of past experiences they are not yet expressing an opinion. It is recalled that after Dr. Walter Simons, German Foreign Minister, presented his case at the St. James meeting of the Supreme Council two months ago he endeavored to show informally that it was in compliance with the Paris terms. That effort totally failed to convince any of the Allies.

What is feared now is that the new offer will be so framed as to induce President Harding to believe that it is a substantial fulfillment of the Paris terms when later allied examination may reveal essential defects of detail which would make it anything but a full compliance.

Support for Lloyd George.

There is still an important section of British opinion, some bankers and a section of liberal politicians, who are convinced that the Allies are asking too much from Germany. But Lloyd George made a solemn assertion at Lymington that he was convinced from every source of information at his command that the Allies are asking nothing that would ruin Germany. He is still controlling the political opinion of England, and with the information at his command there is no doubt that he could convince the bulk of popular opinion and have this back of him if it comes to a showdown.

It is understood that one of the results of the Lymington conference was to convince Lloyd George that France's proposed steps would be effective not only in severely punishing Germany for her default but also in creating an effective machinery whereby France could collect some of the money due her. Premier Jaspard of Belgium also told Mr. Lloyd George to-day that despite the hitherto remarkable recovery of his country she cannot see the way to go on unless she gets the German reparations due her.

While the belief here is that Germany's offer on the face will closely approximate the Paris figures it will take a careful examination to determine whether the prima facie aspects are right. Lloyd George has already indicated that both he and Premier Briand admit that the portion of the German note related to the devastated regions seems adequate as far as it goes. That is the only portion that has been received in detail as yet.

It is pointed out here that in the London conference the Germans discounted their obligations at 8 per cent. and then proceeded to charge the interest on deferred payments at 5 per cent. It is such procedure that the Allies are prepared to guard against.

So strong, however, is the allied belief that the Paris figures are within Germany's capacity to pay—though they are well below the French needs—that there is no possibility of an amelioration of those demands unless absolute proof that Germany cannot meet the terms is produced.

Berlin Offers Less Than Half France's War Cost

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD, Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD, New York Herald Bureau, Paris, April 26.

AN official statement issued here to-night was designed to show the insufficiency of the Allies accepting anything less than the Paris reparations figures. The cost of the war to France alone was shown as 500,000,000,000 francs. As against this sum the Treaty of Versailles, if obeyed literally, would only compel Germany to pay a total of 220,000,000,000 marks gold for the actual damage done and for pensions to all the Allies. France's part of the treaty's provisions is 20,000,000,000 marks, due before May 1, and her annuities outlined by the Paris accord and the percentages fixed for distribution only furnish 140,000,000,000 marks, which is only 23 per cent. of France's war expenses. Of the 38,000,000,000 francs advanced for the account of Germany since the armistice the Germans have paid absolutely nothing in cash and only 8,000,000,000 francs in kind.

BRITISH COMMENT ON NEW PROPOSALS

Still Below Minimum Demands of Allies, Says London 'Times.'

LONDON, April 27.—Germany's new proposals, says the London Times, "are not so desirous as the proposals of March, but they are still away below what the Allies after many voluntary abatement, have declared to be the minimum demands."

"In many respects they are far from clear, and their vagueness on certain points offers, intentionally or not, fresh opportunities for the tactics which Germany has pursued for the last two years with so large a measure of success."

"It remains to be seen whether President Harding and his advisers will consider the present project such an advance upon them as to make worth while submitting them in their present shape to the Allies and whether the allied council can entertain them as capable of forming a basis of agreement."

The Times deprecates the German assertion that the note offers the Allies the possibility, adding: "It is a common form, rather unwisely repeated so often after it had been employed as a preface to terms which at all events rarely met below those now acknowledged possible."

With respect to a loan, the Times says the matter of security is likely to be important, and that it is not likely the Allies will assent to an interest rate of 4 per cent. It declared that the offer of one billion gold marks to the Reparations Commission is a step in the right direction, "as far as it goes," and asks whether the German qualification that the present basis of production is not sufficient to be diminished is intended to cover the claim to Upper Silesia, and concludes, while noting with satisfaction several features in the note: "We cannot help being unfavorably impressed with the singular lack of precision and the many openings it gives for delay, when wilful delay can no longer be tolerated."

CHAMBERLAIN URGES DECREASE IN DEBT

Progress Already Made in Notes Held Here.

LONDON, April 26.—In his speech in the House of Commons in presenting the budget, Austen Chamberlain, acting as Chancellor of the Exchequer, laid emphasis on the importance to Great Britain of decreasing her external debts. This debt, he declared, already had been reduced in two years by £25,000,000.

"While still Chancellor of the Exchequer," said Mr. Chamberlain, "I already had undertaken to repay at maturity November 1 the 5½ per cent. five year United Kingdom notes falling due on the New York market. These amounted on March 31, 1920, to \$125,000,000, but by March 31, 1921, they had been reduced to \$111,000,000 and a further substantial amount has already been bought by us in the market."

When Mr. Chamberlain presented the budget Monday night it was erroneously reported in despatches that the notes due in New York on March 31, 1921, had been reduced to \$11,000,000.

CHARGE PATRONS MAY TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE PRICE CONCESSIONS AND HAVE BILLS RENDERED JUNE 1ST.

J. M. Gidding & Co.

564-566-568 FIFTH AVE. AT 46th STREET PARIS

ANNOUNCEMENT

A revision of prices to lower costs, in keeping with President Harding's suggestion, places before you Spring Fashions at very material reductions.

The assortments are now at their best because of the earliness of the season—affording wonderful opportunity for choosing from among the most beautiful Tailored and Costume Suits—Day Coats and Coat Wraps—Daytime and Evening Gowns—Sports Apparel—Hats and Furs.

FRANCE MAY HEED HARDING'S ADVICE

Will Not Refuse to Negotiate on Basis President May Forward.

PARIS SHOOTING HIGH

But Will Protest Against Abandoning Guarantee, Lacking American Assurance.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD, Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD, New York Herald Bureau, Paris, April 26.

Although the French Foreign Office late this afternoon professed to have no detailed information either from Berlin or from Ambassador Jusserand in Washington regarding the contents of the new German reparations proposals, President Harding, a declaration by Premier Briand in the Chamber of Deputies here this afternoon, which was followed by a vote of confidence of 424 to 28, plainly showed that France will refuse to negotiate on any basis that may be forwarded by President Harding, especially if it approximates the Paris reparations figures of 220,000,000,000 marks gold.

While the Reparations Commission has a right to recommend the imposition of further sanctions, Premier Briand has promised not to act unless in accord with the allies of France.

It is becoming more doubtful daily whether Premier Lloyd George would flout advice from Washington to go on the matter of enforcing the sanctions while Germany's new offer was being discussed.

Following Premier Briand's declaration in the Chamber, an agency resume from Berlin gave excerpts from the new German reparations offer. It said on Berlin's proposition that instead of the 1,000,000,000 marks which the Reparations Commission demanded should be transferred by Germany to the Bank of Prussia before next Saturday Germany offers to pay 150,000,000 marks in gold and silver currencies, the balance to be paid in less than three months by the German Government.

Germany emphasizes that acceptance of the new proposals involves the lifting of all treaty agreements regarding reparations, as well as the immediate cessation of all sanctions, and it is certain that France will protest most vigorously against the proposal to consider her only safe guarantee in the absence of an outright assurance that America will take full responsibility for the German offer.

Premier Briand expressed confidence this afternoon that the United States would not forward anything except what it believes agreeable to the Allies, and also on his Government achieving British support for the occupation of the Ruhr region if the German offer is not acceptable when the Allies meet in London next Saturday.

In the press conference at noon to-day Foreign Office representatives told newspaper correspondents the Paris accord was considered dead, and even if other portions of the German offer seemed worthy of discussion France will have the right to take the Ruhr on May 1 if Germany does not give satisfaction to the Reparations Commission's demand for the remaining 12,000,000,000 marks out of the 20,000,000,000 marks due on that date under the Treaty of Versailles.

This was generally taken, as might be possible, since Berlin in her note expresses a willingness to change any detail of her proposals to meet the wishes of President Harding.

It is seen here that any unpaid portion of the 20,000,000,000 marks, after deducting 4,000,000 marks chargeable to the maintenance of the armistice of occupation, shall be subject to financial manipulation, as provided by paragraph 12, sub-paragraphs 1 and 2 of Annex II of the reparations chapter of the peace treaty. These provide for replacing the gold bonds now in the Reparations Commission's vaults, and which do not bear interest, by a supplemental interest bearing issue at 2½ per cent., leaving the question of marketing these bonds for the Allies' benefit up to the commission itself. This directly refutes certain French views that Germany's failure to obey the Reparations Commission constitutes a problem separate from that of the total reparations.

50,000 FOR POOL IN MILK.

UTICA, April 26.—The 50,000 signed contracts necessary for the starting of the Dairyman's League pooling plan have been secured, it was announced to-day. This assures the operation of the plan May 1.

NO GOVERNMENT IN ULSTER, SAYS DEVLIN

Only Rioters in Uniform, Declares Nationalist Leader.

CITY IS GERRYMANDERED

Large Unionist Quarter Added to Catholic District and Derry to County.

By the Associated Press.

BELFAST, April 26.—Joseph Devlin, who has returned to Ulster to direct the Nationalist campaign, in an interview to-day termed the recent proclamation issued by Sir James Craig, the Ulster Unionist leader, as "the greatest example of political bankruptcy I ever saw." He characterized it as "the statement of a man groping in the dark not knowing where he is or what he is there for. It is not a statement of policy," he continued, "only an evasion. He talks about the Unionists' 'great cause.' It is the first duty of a leader to state his cause. Craig does not tell us what his cause is, unless it is to cut off six counties from Ireland."

Mr. Devlin, who urged the Ulster electors to concentrate on the supreme issue of obtaining a strong working majority in the Ulster Parliament, said: "To put it plainly, failure to secure an effective majority would mean immediate submergence in the Dublin Parliament. The fate of six counties hangs in the balance."

The Ulster Parliament, in Mr. Devlin's opinion, will be a fiasco. It will be faced at the outset, he said, with the necessity of taxing the people for the maintenance of Belfast's 35,000 unemployed, who are steadily increasing through the dismissal of a thousand workers weekly from the ship yards.

Regarding the possibility of a settlement of the Irish question by negotiation, Mr. Devlin was extremely pessimistic. He did not doubt that Lord Derby had come to Ireland with credentials from Premier Lloyd George, but he added, "It is apparent from Lord Derby's own statement of his visit that he accomplished nothing. Representatives of the Government come over and palaver abstractions, trying to 'exploire' the Irish people's minds, but get nowhere. If the Government is sincere in its efforts to settle the Irish question, the only thing for it to do is to state definitely the maximum concessions it is willing to grant Ireland."

The efforts of Sir Horace Plunkett and the Irish Dominion League to bring Ulster and southern Ireland into accord he dismissed as futile. In this connection, he said, he was not sure that Sir Horace came to Belfast Friday to talk to the Unionist leaders, but neither Sir James Craig nor the others would see him.

On all sides apprehension is expressed that elections will be made the occasion of renewal of the rioting which resulted in much bloodshed last summer and autumn.

The Nationalist charge that the election districts are so gerrymandered that they will be placed at great disadvantage, and fear that those Nationalists residing in Belfast will be entirely excluded from representation in the Imperial Parliament.

Belfast city is divided into four districts, of which the smallest formerly was West Belfast, where the population was almost exclusively Catholic. Their majority there now has been wiped out, the Nationalists assert, by the addition of a large Unionist territory. They declare that the Nationalist, who only recently gained ascendancy in Londonderry, have been similarly elbowed back by the inclusion of the city in the county. Therefore, the only representative in the Imperial Parliament left to the Catholics will be from the joint district of Fermanagh and Tyrone counties.

EDWARDS CONFIRMED AFTER SENATE FIGHT

Only Five Negative Votes—Dawes Becomes Brigadier.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—The nominations of Brig.-Gen. Clarence R. Edwards and eleven other brigadier-generals to be major-generals, were confirmed to-day by the Senate. The nominations of fourteen colonels to be brigadier-generals also were confirmed.

Opposition to Gen. Edwards, which had developed in the Military Committee, was carried to the Senate floor, Senator McKellar, Democrat (Tenn.), it was reported, led the fight against him and forced a roll call upon which there were only five negative votes against confirmation. The vote for Edwards was said to be 65, including several Democratic Senators.

The Senate also confirmed army officers to be brigadier-generals in charge of War Department bureaus. Among these were Charles T. Manhart, to be Chief of the Air Service; George O. Squier, Signal Officer, and John L. Chamberlain, Inspector-General.

Charles G. Dawes of Chicago was confirmed as brigadier-general in the Reserve Corps, and the Senate also approved several hundred minor promotions in the army.

FORD PLANS MONTHLY BONUS.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD, Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD, New York Herald Bureau, Detroit, April 26.—At a conference of Ford Motor officials to-day plans were discussed to pay the Ford Motor Company's bonus to its employees monthly this year instead of holding it until the first of next year.

Last January the individual bonuses ranged from \$50 to more than \$300.

Something to Think About

Knickerbocker Ice is about the only thing that comes into your house free from the ubiquitous middleman. Between you and the newspaper is the newsboy. Between you and the dairy is the milkman. Between you and the farmer are the commission man and the grocer. Between you and the pig that grows the ham are the packer and the butcher. All of these "betweens" exact their toll.

Between you and Knickerbocker Ice there is no middleman. That's why clean Knickerbocker Ice delivered to you in clean wagons costs you but 3-5 of a cent a pound. And the price won't be raised.

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